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We have prepared this book to help you and your families avoid becoming victims of a crime. We have taken information from several sources including AARP publications, law enforcement publications and our knowledge of security procedures to create one comprehensive guide. Although we cannot predict everything that you may encounter, familiarity with the information included in this book can help you avoid being a victim of most criminal activity.

The mission of the Moore County Sheriff's Office is to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Moore County by providing a safe community in which our citizens can live, work and prosper. We can accomplish this mission by working in partnership with the citizens of Moore County through the highest ethical, professional and legal standards.

Crime prevention is accomplished by the law enforcement officers and the citizens working together. The information provided in this booklet will help you do your part. We, as local law enforcement officers, will be doing everything we can to fulfill our obligation to you.

We hope you will find this book helpful in your efforts to secure yourself and your property against crime. If you have questions, please call us and we will provide telephone assistance to you or we will gladly come to your home to explain any crime prevention procedure to you.

Sincerely,

Neil A. Godfrey
Neil Godfrey
Sheriff of Moore County

I. HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF AT HOME

There are several simple techniques which have proven successful in preventing many residential break-ins. The vast majority of home break-ins are through the doors and windows of the residence. Proper securing of these points of entry is a very important part of home protection.

Doors

- All outside doors should be solid core in construction or metal clad. Hollow core doors are easily kicked in.
- All door frames should be solid and firmly attached to the house structure.
- All door hinges should be on the inside.
- All outside doors should have securely mounted deadbolt locks.
- The deadbolt should be 40 inches away from any breakable glass in the door.
- A wide angle peephole should be installed in the outside doors.
- Garage doors should be kept shut.

Sliding Doors

- To prevent sliding doors from being pried up and out of their bottom track, the top track should have screws protruding down so that the top of the door barely clears them.
- Put a wooden rod such as a broomstick or a metal rod in the bottom track so that the door cannot be pushed open even if the lock is pried.

Windows

- On double hung windows security can be increased by drilling a downward sloping hole through the top of the bottom sash and into (but not through) the bottom of the top sash. Insert a nail in this hole to prevent opening of either sash.
- Secure sliding windows in the same manner as sliding doors.
- Jalousie and awning windows are not very secure because individual panes are easy to pry or remove.

ALWAYS BE SURE THAT ANY DOOR AND WINDOW LOCKS YOU INSTALL CAN BE OPENED QUICKLY IF THERE IS A FIRE.

Alarms

If you are considering an alarm system, carefully select the installer to assure that you get adequate protection, but not a system far more costly than you need.

Remember these points:

- Get written cost estimates, compare companies and check their reputations.
- An effective alarm system should protect all points of entry into your home.
- Price is no guarantee of quality. Your sheriff's department or police department should be able to help you determine the best system for your needs.

II. OUTSIDE THE HOME

Now that you have protected all points of entry into your home, look around the outside. Remember a burglar is looking for an easy opportunity.

- Trim all trees, bushes and shrubs that offer concealment.
- Install outside lighting to eliminate dark areas around doors or windows.
- Before an extended absence, ask someone to watch your home, collect the mail and papers, and cut the lawn. This will give your home a "lived-in" look.

Additional Tips

- If you are away from home at night, leave at least one light on inside and one outside. It is best to have these on a timer.
- Do not give out personal information or information about your home over the telephone.
- Do not open the door for unknown strangers or unexpected repair people or deliveries. Ask for a company I.D. to be shown and call to verify if you are suspicious.
- If you arrive home and think someone is inside, **do not go in**. Call law enforcement from a nearby home.
- Trim landscape and locate outside lighting to allow for easy viewing from the house.

- Inventory and mark, engrave or photograph all household valuables, farm machinery and equipment.
- Be suspicious. Report unusual or suspicious behavior to the sheriff's office or police department. Write down descriptions of the person(s) and license numbers of any vehicles involved.
- Look after your neighbor's house when they are away and ask them to look after yours. This includes collecting mail, newspapers and other deliveries which would indicate at a glance that no one is home.
- Keep a trusted neighbor informed if your house will be unoccupied for an extended period. It's important to leave the neighbor a way of reaching you if any emergency should arise.

III. HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF IN YOUR CAR

When driving, you can protect yourself from most dangerous situations with common sense measures.

- Always lock your car doors while driving and roll windows up far enough to keep anyone from reaching inside.
- At stop signs and lights, keep the car in gear and stay alert.
- Travel well-lighted, busy streets. You can spare those extra minutes it may take to avoid an unsafe area.
- Keep your purse and other valuables out of view, even when you are in your locked car.
- Park in safe, well-lighted areas near your destination.
- Always lock your car, even for a short absence. Before unlocking your car, quickly check to make sure no one is hiding on your seats or floors, front and back.
- Never pick up a hitchhiker. Even the most harmless looking stranger can be dangerous. Don't find out.
- Check the daily routes you travel and pick out safe spots – 24 hour gas stations, convenience stores, and police and fire stations. If trouble should arise, drive straight to one of these locations.
- If your car should break down and you're not near enough to one of your safe spots, follow these steps:
 - 1) Get off the roadway, out of the path of oncoming traffic, even if you have to drive on a flat tire. The tire is replaceable.
 - 2) Turn on your emergency flashers. If you have emergency roadway flares in your vehicle, position them conspicuously.

- 3) Raise the hood and tie a cloth to the aerial or door handle.
 - 4) If you can't drive the vehicle, it may be safer to stay in the vehicle and wait for help or use a cell phone to call for help.
 - 5) If a motorist stops to render assistance, it's better to remain in the car and ask them to get help (likewise, if you see a stranded motorist, it's better not to stop. Notify law enforcement).
- If you think you are being followed, don't drive home. You would only be telling your follower where you live.
 - 1) Stay calm. As long as you think clearly, you'll be in control of the situation.
 - 2) Flash your lights and sound your horn long enough to attract attention to you and consequently the person following you.
 - 3) Drive to one of your already identified safe spots, sounding your horn and flashing your lights. Do not leave this safe location until you're sure your follower is gone.
 - Remember, you are your best protection. If you follow these steps, you'll be protecting the most important part of your car – **YOU**.

Protecting Your Car

Facts:

- Every 33 seconds a car is stolen in the United States
- More than a million cars are stolen each year
- 40% have keys in the ignition
- 80% are unlocked
- Most are stolen by young opportunists

To keep your car from becoming a statistic:

- Always lock all doors, even when the car is in your garage or driveway
- Roll windows up tight
- Park in heavily traveled areas
- Don't leave any valuables in sight, lock them in the trunk
- Don't think it can't happen to you – act before, not after the crime

While you've been reading this booklet, ten cars were stolen. They were stolen because the opportunity was there. If you have taken these protective measures, you may deter the theft of your car.

IV. CONDUCTING A SECURITY SURVEY

By conducting the following security survey you can determine if your house would be one of the more difficult targets or one of the less difficult targets for a burglar. Check out your home from the burglar’s point of view.

Start on the outside:

Yes No

- ☐ ☐ Do trees and shrubbery obscure doors or windows?
- ☐ ☐ Are any entrances to your home unlighted?
- ☐ ☐ Are any openings to your home (skylights, crawl spaces or vents) unprotected?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, you have a problem to correct. Now let’s look at your house from the inside.

Yes No

- ☐ ☐ Are exterior doors secured using a deadbolt lock, minimum one-inch throw?
- ☐ ☐ Do the garage doors and garage windows lock?
- ☐ ☐ Does the garage entrance to your home have a dead-bolt lock with a minimum one-inch throw?
- ☐ ☐ Are all exterior doors (including the garage) strong enough to withstand excessive force such as a hard kick?
- ☐ ☐ Are all strike plates and frames for each door strong enough to withstand excessive force such as a hard kick?

Yes No

_____ Are sliding doors and windows secure against forced locks and/or lifting out of their frames?

_____ Are hinges pinned to prevent removal?

_____ Is there a peephole viewer (180 degrees) on the main entrance door?

_____ Are double-hung windows secured with a pin or extra lock to discourage jimmying?

_____ Are panes in louvered or jalousie windows well-fastened to the metal retainers? Are they reinforced with metal screening or grating on the inside?

_____ Do the casement window latches work properly, without excess play?

If you have answered no to any of these questions you should think about corrective measures. Also, it is important to remember that it is not necessary to spend a lot of money on your security.

V. IF YOU ARE ON A TRIP

If you plan to travel or be away from your home for several days, there are some measures you can take to help protect your home while you are gone.

Advise your Sheriff's Office or Police Department to place your home on its extra patrol list.

- Do not advertise your departure.
- Keep a car parked in your driveway.
- Set your television/radio and lights on a timer.
- Have your newspaper stopped or ask a neighbor to pick up your paper and mail while you are away.
- Do not state on your answering machine that you are on vacation. If you do not have a machine, turn the ringer on low so that people do not hear your phone ringing endlessly.

- Keep your blinds in their normal position. A sudden change is an announcement that your home is unoccupied.
- If you are going to be away for an extended period of time, make sure your yard is maintained.
- Let a neighbor know how you can be reached and when you will return.

VI. HOW TO SPOT AND AVOID A CON ARTIST

The Con Artist

The clever con artist is a good actor who disarms his victims with an affable “nice guy” approach. However, behind this friendly exterior is a shrewd psychologist who can isolate potential victims and break down their resistance to his proposals. Each conquest is part of a game in which he must “best” his fellow man.

The typical con artist is amoral but seldom violent, with an excellent sense of timing. He sincerely believes his victims deserve their fate.

The Victim

Anyone can be a victim, even a person who considers himself too intelligent or sophisticated to be “conned”.

Many victims share certain characteristics. Often, but not always, they are older, female and live alone. They are trusting of others – even strangers – and may need or desire supplemental income. Loneliness, willingness to help, and a sense of charity are characteristics a con artist will exploit to gain a victim’s cooperation. The con artist ultimately will exploit his victim’s assets, including life insurance benefits, pensions or annuities, “nest eggs”, home equity, or other tangible property. He’ll usually obtain the willing cooperation of his victim to complete his scheme.

Key Words

A con artist is difficult to detect by look alone. You can often spot him by his words or expressions, including:

CASH ONLY

Why is cash necessary for a proposed transaction? Why not a check?

SECRET PLANS

Why are you being asked not to tell anyone?

GET RICH QUICK

Any such plan should be carefully investigated.

SOMETHING FOR NOTHING

A “retired” swindler once said that any time you are promised something for nothing, you usually get nothing.

CONTEST

Make sure they aren’t a “come-on” to draw you into a money-making scheme.

HASTE

Be wary of any pressure that you must act immediately or lose out.

TODAY ONLY

If something is worthwhile today, it’s likely available tomorrow, after you have examined the proposal.

TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE

Such a proposal is probably not good or not true.

LAST CHANCE

If it’s a chance worth taking, why is it offered on such short notice? Avoid pressured proposals.

SURPLUS CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL

Leftover materials might also be stolen or defective.

Some examples of fraudulent schemes are:

Home Repair Fraud – The repair person will offer to do some repair work at your home for a price that sounds good to you. They say they need the money advanced so they can buy materials to do the job. You advance the money and never see the repair person again. **Do not pay any money in advance.** Pay only after the job is completed. Also pay only if the job is satisfactorily completed. Sometimes the work is so poorly done that you have to get another company to do it again. If you are not sure of the quality of the work, have a friend look at it with you. Avoid door to door repair people and get references before you hire anybody you do not know the reputation of. Always pay with a check, never cash.

Lottery Scam – begins with an unexpected email notification or a telephone call that you are the winner of a large sum of money in a lottery. The recipient of the message — the target of the scam — is usually told to keep the notice secret, because the IRS and federal agencies will want to “tax” the winnings. The victim will often be told to contact a "claims agent." After contacting the agent, the target of the scam will be asked to pay "processing fees" or "transfer charges" so that the winnings can be distributed, but will never receive any lottery payment. Many email lottery scams use the names of legitimate lottery organizations or other legitimate corporations/companies, but this does not mean the legitimate organizations are in any way involved with the scams.

Online Purchases – Beware of con artists when attempting to sell something over the internet. Fraudulent money orders and cashiers checks are easily printed and make it easy to prey on unsuspecting sellers. The scammer will send a money order or some type of cashiers check for an item that is for sale for a considerably more than the purchase price. The scammer will advise the victim to cash it, keep some of the extra for their trouble, and then send the remainder back by wire transfer. The problem is, the money order or check is fraudulent and will not clear the bank when it is processed days later. The person who cashed the check or money order is then responsible for the funds. This is often referred to as “Overpayment Fraud.”

Free Inspections – for termites, furnace, plumbing or electrical problems. They often create the problem while they are “inspecting” your home, then they offer to fix the problem for a low fee. They also may be checking the contents of your home to come back and steal when you are gone. Avoid door to door or phone solicitation for inspections. You can find a reputable company in the telephone book to do this.

Home Solicitation Sales, Telephone Sales and Mail Fraud – the ordered product never arrives or it is not what you ordered. If you have already paid, you often have no recourse and your money is gone. You can buy through the mail, by phone or the internet (a call initiated by you) with confidence if you buy from a reputable company. If you are unsure, call your consumer protection agency.

Automobile Repair Fraud – The best prevention is to use a garage which has had a good reputation over a long period of time. Our local Clerk of Court can inform you of any claims against a business for mistreatment of customers.

Credit Card Fraud – *NEVER* give your credit card number to anyone who calls you. It is alright to provide this information if you initiate the call to a reputable company. But *never* give it to anyone who calls you.

Always inspect your charge slip after a credit card transaction to verify that additional items or charges have not been added. Be sure that you get your own credit card back after a transaction.

Report lost credit cards to the credit card company by telephone immediately.

Bait and Switch – a product is advertised at a certain price. When the customer comes in, the product is not available but the customer is talked into a similar but higher priced item. Talk to the manager about a rain check or shop somewhere else.

Antique Hunters – People seeking to obtain antiques sometimes go to the residence of an older, single person (or an older couple). The visitors try to win the approval of the resident by being nice. All the while the visitors are checking for antique furniture or other valuables in the home, the attic or in storage sheds. They will then offer to buy the item. The money offered sounds good to the resident but is only a portion of the real value of the item. After the item is gone it is often impossible to recover and return it.

Charity and Other Fundraisers – We experience many fraudulent attempts of fund-raising in Moore County. Most are telephone solicitations, some are through the mail and a few are door to door. There are some legitimate fundraisers for charity and other good projects locally, but there are also many improper and illegal attempts and you must be very careful when someone contacts you for a donation. Some solicitors claim to be helping law enforcement, medical research and other worthwhile concerns, but in truth they are raising money for personal use only. The best policy is to restrict your donations to only those concerns that you have prior knowledge of as being legitimate and honest. It is all right to be skeptical when contacted about giving money. Please contact your local law enforcement agency if you feel uneasy about any fund-raising approach.

VII. REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

There are many more citizens than there are law enforcement officers. Although law enforcement officers are continually looking for suspicious activity, an alert

community can see more than any law enforcement agency can see. If you have an idea that something you see is suspicious, it is best to report it.

The following is a list of activities which can reasonably be considered to be suspicious and the criminal act which is possibly being committed:

Circumstances	Possible Crime
Going door to door in a residential area, especially if one or more persons go to rear of residence.	Possible burglary suspects
Waiting or loitering in front of houses or businesses, if business is closed or house unoccupied.	Possible burglary suspects
Forcing entrance or entering your neighbor's house when it is unoccupied.	Possible break-in in progress
Person carrying property that is not wrapped, at an unusual hour.	Possible suspect fleeing the scene of a burglary or larceny
Excessive traffic to and from a residence if it occurs on a daily basis.	Possible drug or stolen property operation
Person screaming	Possible rape or assault
Persons loitering around cars or going car to car peering into them, in parking lots or on streets.	Possible car thief or theft from vehicle
Persons loitering around schools, parks or secluded areas.	Possible sex offender or drug dealers
Persons offering items for sale at a very low price.	Possibly trying to sell stolen property
Slow moving vehicle, without lights, or following an aimless course. This is suspicious in any location, including residential streets, schools, playgrounds.	Possible burglar, drug dealer, or sex offender

Parked, occupied vehicle containing one or more person, especially significant if observed at an unusual hour	Possible lookouts for a burglary or robbery
Vehicles being loaded with valuables if parked by a closed business or unoccupied residence.	Possible burglary or theft in progress
Abandoned vehicle parked on your block. Vehicle someone is being forced to enter, especially females or juveniles.	Possible stolen car, possible kidnapping, assault, attempted rape or child molesting
Vehicle in which a business transaction is being conducted, around schools or parks.	Possibly selling stolen items or drugs
Locked vehicles that someone is attempting to forcibly enter, especially in a parking lot.	Possible theft of a car
Persons detaching mechanical parts or accessories from a vehicle.	Possible theft or vandalism
Open or broken doors and windows at a closed business or unoccupied residence.	Possible burglary in progress, completed burglary or vandalism
Sound of breaking glass	Possible burglary or vandalism
A person exhibiting unusual mental or physical symptoms.	Person may be injured, under the influence of drugs or otherwise in need of medical attention

Reporting

Be prepared. **Keep the number for the police or sheriff by your telephone or call 911.**

Remain calm. Avoid taking any risks. Keep away from the crime scene.

When you call to report suspicious activity, you will be asked for your name, address and telephone number. This information is requested in case additional contact with you becomes necessary. You can remain anonymous if you wish.

The following information is most important:

- What happened?
- Time and place
- Was anyone hurt?
- Description of suspect(s)
- Description of vehicle(s)
- License plate number if possible
- Time and direction of escape
- Additional details and circumstances

Remain on the telephone until you are certain the law enforcement agency has all the necessary information. Above all, remember that with your help in reporting suspicious activities, law enforcement agencies can more effectively protect the rights of citizens.

VIII. OPERATION ID

Operation identification (ID) is a program in which we mark your valuable personal property with a special number to be used in identifying the property as yours if it is stolen.

The program is simple. We will come to your home and describe the procedure to you. We will then help you mark the items with an engraver. We can discuss this activity with you by telephone first so that we can give you some helpful hints.

The identifying number used most often and most effectively is your drivers

license number. If your property is stolen and later found in the possession of the thief or anyone else, the number can be used to quickly trace the property back to you. Serial numbers, of course, remain pertinent (if you have them recorded), but your ID number can help a lot. Also, every piece of personal property does not have a serial number on it so your ID number would be very important in the recovery and the return of the property to you.

Having your ID number on your property also helps deter a thief from taking your property. The thief likely knows that property marked with an ID number is easier to trace and he is more likely to be caught if he tries to sell the property. We can provide you with stickers or decals to put on doors, windows or the personal property itself so a potential thief will know your property is marked and can be easily traced.

IX. PHOTO-RECORDING YOUR VALUABLES

We encourage you to photograph all of your personal property with a digital camera or a video camera. This photograph record will be additional proof of ownership of your property if it is stolen or if you have a fire. This is especially useful for such items as jewelry, coin or stamp collections, fur coats, silverware and other items which do not have an identifying number on them. The pictures or video tape should be stored in a safe place until needed by law enforcement officers or your insurance company.

If needed, we will have an officer who is trained in this procedure come to your home to assist you with making a photograph record of your valuables. The photographs or video tape can be updated any time you acquire more property.

X. ARE YOU OKAY

We have a program at the Sheriff's Office in which we personally telephone senior citizens every morning to determine if they are okay. We call this our "Are You Okay?" program.

Sometimes a person is unable to answer our call because of an injury, sickness or some other event. We then send someone to the house right away to check on them. We keep a list of their friends and family, doctors and ministers, health problems they may have and the name of a contact person with a house key. This program has proven its value several times when we were able to

quickly get aid to people who had fallen or had other problems. It is a great program and people enjoy being on our calling list.

If you or someone you know wants to be on this daily “Are You Okay?” calling list, please contact the Sheriff’s Office and someone will help add you to our calling list.

XI. CHILD SAFETY TIPS

Certain circumstances place children in increased danger. The risk can be reduced if the child is aware of basic safety procedures.

1) Child Home Alone

The child should never open the door to unfamiliar people.

The child should never tell anyone at the door or on the phone that they are home alone.

Each child should know their own home address and phone number and how to contact their parents at work quickly.

Each child should know a trusted neighbor who can be called in an emergency.

All children should know basic procedures in case of injury or fire including how and when to use 911.

Firearms and dangerous materials should not be accessible to children.

2) Lost or Missing Child Prevention

Do not allow child to play alone in an isolated area.

Child should not enter anyone’s home without parental permission.

Establish where child should meet you if you become separated at a parade, mall, etc.

Child should know that it is OK to use a phone to call for help if scared.

Children should be taught the risks involved in being lost or running away.

Parents can notify schools and other care givers to allow only specified person to pick up your child.

Have your child ask for a secret password if someone unfamiliar tried to pick them up.

Keep an up to date identification record of your child, including physical description, photograph, fingerprints and dental records.

3) **Prevent Child Abuse**

Child abuse exists in the following forms:

- Physical Abuse** - injuring a child by hitting, kicking, shaking, etc.
- Emotional Abuse** - crushing a child's spirit with derogatory verbal attacks, threats or humiliation.
- Sexual Abuse** - sexual contact with a child, incest, inappropriate touching, rape or pornographic use of a child.
- Neglect** - failure to provide for a child's physical or emotional needs such as food, clothing, shelter, medical care, also failure to provide guidance or supervision, abandonment.

Child abuse in any form is unacceptable and must be stopped. The short and long term effects on a child's life are often devastating. Please report any suspected child abuse to the social services agency or local law enforcement.

XII. IDENTITY THEFT

The 1990's spawned a new variety of crooks called identity thieves. Their stock in trade is your everyday transaction. Each transaction requires you to share personal information – your bank and credit card account numbers, your income, your social security number (SSN), or your name, address and phone

numbers. An identity thief co-opts some piece of your personal information and appropriates it without your knowledge to commit fraud or theft. An all-too-common example is when an identity thief used your personal information to open a credit card account in your name.

How Identity Theft Occurs

Despite your best efforts to manage the flow of your personal information or keep it to yourself, skilled identity thieves may use a variety of methods, low and high tech, to gain information and take over your identity.

How identity thieves get your personal information:

- They steal wallets and purses containing your identification and credit and bank cards.
- They steal your mail, including your bank and credit card statements, pre-approved credit offers, telephone calling cards and tax information.
- They complete a “change of address form” to divert your mail to another location.
- They rummage through your trash or the trash of businesses, for personal data in a practice known as “dumpster diving”.
- They fraudulently obtain your credit report by posing as a landlord, employer or someone else who may have a legitimate need for and a legal right to the information.
- They get your business or personnel records at work.
- They find personal information in your home.
- They use personal information you share on the internet.

How identity thieves use your personal information:

- They call your credit card issuer, pretending to be you, ask to change the mailing address on your credit card account. The imposter then runs up charges on your account. Because your bills are being sent to the new address, it may take some time before you realize there’s a problem.
- They open a new credit card account, using your name, date of birth and SSN. When they use the credit card and don’t pay the bills, the delinquent account is reported on your credit report.
- They establish phone or wireless service in your name.
- They open a bank account in your name and write bad checks on that account.

- They file for bankruptcy under your name to avoid paying debts they've incurred under your name, or to avoid eviction.
- They counterfeit checks or debit cards and drain your bank account.

While you probably can't prevent identity theft entirely, you can minimize your risk. By managing your personal information wisely, cautiously and with an awareness of the issue, you can help guard against identity theft.

If You Become a Victim

- Set up a folder to keep a detailed history of the crime.
- Keep a log of all your contacts and make copies of all documents.
- Contact the three Credit Bureau's fraud units to report the identity theft.
 - Equifax – 1-800-525-6285
 - Experian – 1-888-397-3742
 - Trans Union – 1-800-680-7289
- Call your local Sheriff's Office or Police Department to file an identity theft report.
- Alert your banks to flag your accounts and contact you to confirm any unusual activity. Request a change of PIN numbers and a new password.
- Contact the Social Security Administrator's Fraud Hotline at 1-800-269-0271.
- Evidence: Gather all documents and supply them to the Moore County Sheriff's Office or you local Police Department at the time you file your initial report.
- Contact the Federal Trade Commission to report the problem: The FTC is the Federal clearinghouse for complaints by victims of identity theft. The FTC helps victims by providing information to help resolve financial and other problems that could result from identity theft. Their hot line number is 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338). Additional information about identity theft can be obtained at www.ftc.gov

XIII. Internet Crime Prevention

The Internet places a vast amount of information and exciting experiences at your fingertips. With the click of a mouse, the Internet allows you to buy an air-line ticket, book a hotel or send flowers to a friend. However, as the legitimate

use of the Internet increases, the wrongful use of the Internet to commit crime and victimize our citizens also increases. The following information is to help you protect yourself, your family, your friends and neighbors and to make your experience on the Internet as safe, secure and crime free as possible.

Child Exploitation

Children can be sexually exploited, kidnapped, molested and solicited by individuals using online services. Pedophiles contact children on the Internet through e-mail messages, instant messages, electronic bulletin boards and public chat rooms. Here are a few examples of how to protect your child on the Internet:

- Purchase blocking software and design your own safety system
- Monitor your children when they are online
- Teach your children that the people they meet online may not be who they seem
- Teach children never to give out personal information or passwords
- Teach children to never let anyone pressure them into doing something they feel uncomfortable doing.

“Phishing”

Internet “phishing” scams are one of the fastest growing frauds today. Phishing typically involves a bogus e-mail message that uses legitimate materials, such as a credit union or other organization’s web site graphics and logos in an attempt to entice e-mail recipients to provide personal financial details, such as account information, credit card and Social Security numbers.

Take Some Simple Precautions

- Never respond to an un-solicited e-mail that asks for personal information
- Report anything suspicious to the proper authorities
- Contact the Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ifccfbi.gov
- **Stop:** Resist the urge to immediately respond to a suspicious e-mail despite the urgent or exaggerated claims
- **Look:** Read the text of the e-mail several times and ask yourself why the information would really be needed
- **Call:** Telephone the organization identified in the e-mail using a number that you know is legitimate

Online Auctions

Online auctions are popular to many people who use the Internet. Generally, online auctions are person to person sales where individuals bid for various merchandise. You are usually required to pay for the merchandise in advance of receiving the merchandise. A growing number of sellers are failing to deliver the merchandise.



The Moore County Sheriff's Office has partnered with Nixle to implement its Community Notification System to alert residents in real-time for localized emergency situations and relevant community advisories.

Founded in 2009, Nixle provides a mass communications hub built exclusively for government to provide secure, reliable and relevant information to residents in real-time. Today, over 7,200 Agencies around the United States rely on Nixle for Community Engagement and Emergency Communications.

As a resident, there are several simple ways to register:

1. Text your ZIPCODE to 888777 from your mobile phone
2. Go to www.moorecountync.gov and sign up via the Nixle Widget
3. Sign up and create a User Profile at www.nixle.com

Once registered, residents will receive a confirmation text to their mobile device. Residents may also customize their alert settings by going to www.nixle.com and creating a User Profile.

Sheriff Godfrey states that Nixle is a great way for the public to stay informed with up-to-date information such as upcoming community events, news releases, and safety tips.

The service is secure, reliable and easy to use for our organization.

All Alerts will be targeted geographically, allowing residents to receive localized, relevant alerts from the Moore County Sheriff's Office as well as other participating law enforcement and government agencies. Nixle Alerts can be sent via Text, Email, Web, Social Media, and the Nixle Mobile App in an instant. Nixle is partnered with NLETS for unmatched data security, as well as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the National Blue Alert Network, and Google for unmatched reach and two-way information exchange.



Residents can also follow the Moore County Sheriff's Office on Facebook.

Websites for Reporting Internet Crimes

<http://www.fbi.gov/>

<http://www.ustreas.gov/>

<http://www.usps.com/postalinspectors/>

Websites for Internet Security Information

<http://www.microsoft.com/security>

<http://www.antiphishing.org>

<http://www.consumer.ftc.gov>

Websites for Internet Hoaxes/Frauds

<http://www.snopes.com/>

<http://www.fraudaid.com/advocacy.htm>

Emergency Numbers

Emergency Only.....

911

(Police, Fire, Rescue, Sheriff)

Non-Emergency Numbers

Moore County Sheriff's Office.....(910) 947-2931

Federal Bureau of Investigation.....1-704-672-6100

Highway Patrol.....1-800-572-8765

Poison Control Center.....1-800-222-1222

N.C. State Bureau of Investigation.....1-910-486-1262

Nights, Weekends and Holidays.....1-919-662-4500

U.S. Secret Service.....1-704-442-8370

Police Departments

Aberdeen Police Department.....	(910) 944-9721
Cameron Police Department.....	(910) 243-3212
Carthage Police Department.....	(910) 947-2231
Foxfire Police Department.....	(910) 295-5959
Moore County Schools.....	(910) 947-2976
Pinebluff Police Department.....	(910) 281-3124
Pinehurst Police Department.....	(910) 295-3141
Robbins Police Department.....	(910) 948-3331
Sandhills Community College.....	(910) 695-3831
Southern Pines Police Department.....	(910) 692-2732
Taylor Town Police Department.....	(910) 295-1392
Vass Police Department.....	(910) 245-4676
Whispering Pines Police Department.....	(910) 949-9961

Serial Numbers

Make

Model

[illegible]